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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)			

Express Mail No.: ER224694965US	APPLICANT  STRATTON et al.
	FILING DATE HEREWITH
	GROUP TBA

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,263,060	Apr. 21, 1981	Gaucher et al.			
		5,316,594	May 31, 1994	Kemp			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	A	JP 03 036257	February 15, 1991	JAPAN			X	
	B	0 388 710 B1	February 16, 1994	EPO			X	
	C	JP 07 180025	July 18, 1995	JAPAN			X	
	D	96/23908	August 8, 1996	WO			X	
	E	0 580 081B1	March 26, 1997	EPO			X	
	F	98/02595	January 22, 1998	WO			X	
	G	99/04055	January 28, 1999	PCT			X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		
AQ		SURFACE HARDENING OF TITANIUM BY OXYGEN; Transactions of the Japan Institute of Metals , Japan Institute of Metals, Sandai, JP vol. 3, 1962; pages 10-14, XP002080647 ISSN: 0021-4434 Figures 1-3.
AR		FATIGUE PROPERTIES OF ZINC SINGLE CRYSTALS AND POLYCRYSTALS, I. FATIGUE STRENGTH; Jiro Watanabe; February 17, 1962
AP		PCT International Search Report; October 15, 2003; EPO; Examiner G. Badcock.
AO		PCT International Preliminary Examination Report; May 13, 2004.
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED	
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.		